

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently amended) A method of enabling file sharing over a serverless computer network among members of a group comprising a first user and at least one other user comprising:

displaying to the first user via a first user graphical display a shared space indicator including a first file object associated with the shared space first group comprising the first user and at least one other user;

receiving from the first user a request to perform a file system operation with respect to the file object; and

~~determining if rules permit the first user to execute the file system operation with respect to the file object;~~

~~if the rules permit,~~ sending a direct communication from the first user over the network to a computing device used by the at least one other user that has permission to receive the communication to indicate that the shared file has been modified by the first user after such file system operation has been performed wherein a graphical representation of the shared file modification is displayed on the computing device used by the at least one other user.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the network is a peer-to-peer network.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising presenting a graphical representation of the file system operation to the first user in response to receiving the file system operation request.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) A method for updating a shared file in a computer network including a group of communicating computing devices in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising

~~if rules permit~~, performing, at a first computing ~~devices~~ device, a file system operation on a shared file associated with a file icon displayed in a first shared space display area to generate an updated shared file;

creating, at the first computing device, metadata associated with the updated shared file;  
directly propagating to a second ~~computer~~ computing device that has permission, by the first computing device, the metadata associated with the updated shared file to other group member;

obtaining, by a second computing device, the metadata associated with the updated shared file;

determining, by the second computing device, whether the updated shared file should be replicated on the second computing device;

downloading, by the second computing device, the updated shared file when it is determined that the updated shared file should be replicated; and

displaying a second file icon in the shared space display area of the second computing device indicating that the shared file has been updated.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of displaying, by the second computing device, a third file icon in the shared space display area indicating that the shared file has not been updated when the updated shared file should not be replicated on the second computing device.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the third file icon provides indication that an update to the shared file exists.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the first shared space display area is a folder object.

9. (Currently amended) A method for adding a shared file to a shared space indicated by a display on a computing device in a serverless computer network that includes a first online member of a group and at least one other online member of the group, the method including the steps of:

displaying to the first user via a first user display a group folder object;

~~if rules allow~~, activating a file system operation through selection of a first selectable visual indicator to move a file into the group folder object;

creating metadata concerning the moved file; and

directly transmitting the metadata to the at least one other online member of the group that has permission to receive the metadata wherein the metadata indicates that the moved file has been modified by the first online member after such file system operation has been performed wherein a graphical representation of the shared file modification is displayed on the computing device used by the at least one other online member of the group.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the network is a peer-to-peer network.

11. (Canceled)